THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRIBANDARU DATTATRA YA): (a) Though in majority of the incidences or Railway staff failures, leading to accidents, group'C staff are found responsible, group *D' staff are feeder categories for promotion to group 'C staff including many vital and safety categories. Hence, it has been decided to fill up more than 20,000 group [4]D' vacancies.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The combatised paramilitary forces have been exempted from the purview of rightsizing, hence efforts are being made for exempting RPF/RPSF from rights izing.

(d) The Railways are trying to reduce manpower by 2% every year to the extent possible. During the past 3 years *i.e.* 2000-01,2001-2002 and 2002-03, Railways have been able to reduce manpower by more than 2%. Based on the projection Railways will be able to maintain the trend of achieving an average of 2% annual reduction.

(e) This is being done as per laid down policy of the Government.

Failure to achieve production capacity by public sector units

5218. SHRI TARINIKANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all the six public sector production units of Railways failed to achieve their production capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons behind the failure;

(c) what steps are being taken to revive the production capacity of these units; and

(d) whether it is a fact that more 'indepence would help these PSUs wriggle out of present condition ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAY (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. All die six production units have achieved their production targets for 2002-03. The production targets were fixed based on traffic requirements as availability of funds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Production capacity available in these units is surplus to the present requirements of Indian Railways.

(d) It is proposed to give more autonomy to the General Managers of Production Units (PUs) to make investment decisions, freedom to adopt more

competitive pricing & powers for marketing bom in the domestic and international markets, to enable the PUs to function even more efficiently.

ROB/RUB in Punjab

5219. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail under/over bridges in Punjab as on date;

(b) the number of rail under/over bridges which are under construction;

(c) whether there is any proposal with Government to construct more rail over/under bridges in the State;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI B ANDARU DATTATRA YA): (a) 46 (b)12

(c) Yes, Sir. 20 new works of road over/under bridges have been sanctioned during Works Programme of 2003-04 on cost sharing basis.

(d) and (e) Railways undertake construction of Road over/under bridges in lieu of existing level crossings on cost sharing basis, if traffic density at the level crossing is one lakh or more Train Vehicle Units (TVU - a unit obtained by multiplying the number of Trains with the number of road vehicles passing over the level crossing in 24 hours) otherwise on deposit terms. Proposals in both cases have to be sponsored by State Govt, fulfilling certain preliminary prerequisites required under extant rules. State Govt, has been furnished with a list of such level crossings which have the traffic density of one lakh and more TVUs and requested to sponsor proposals for over/under bridges in lieu thereof.

Detection of missing Rail clips

†5220. SHRIMOTILALVORA:
SHRIMATIPREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) steps taken by Government to avert the accidents due to the increase in the incidents of missing/removing of Rail-clips, fishplates,

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of clips fixed on rail tracks had been found missing on 22nd February, 2003 in the Sultan Puri area of North West Delhi; and

(c) if so, names of the persons found responsible for the incident ?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.